

# Using Media and Communications to Empower and Expand Your Program



#### Presented by:

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#### **ID and Segment Your Audience**





#### Communications That Affect Change





#### **Elements of Communications**





- Know your audience
- Know your issue
- Know what you want to achieve
- Message appropriately

## **What Matters to Them?**



- People
- Partners
- Politicians
- Press



#### **ID and Segment Your Audience**

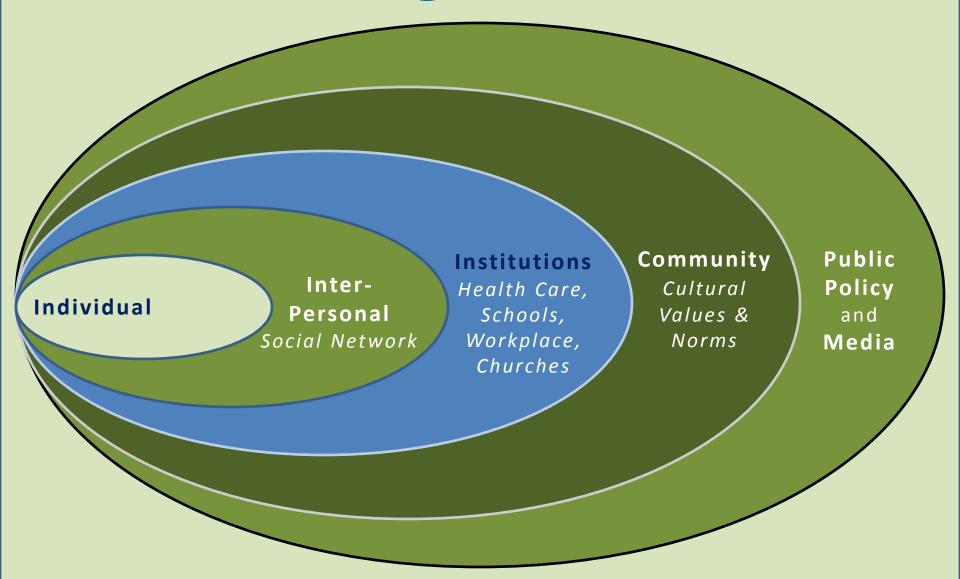


## Successful communication is predicated on knowing your audience

- What matters to them?
- What is the benefit and risk?
- Who influences their thoughts and behaviors?



## Social Ecological Model



## **Audience Analysis Exercise**



- Pick an audience and explain what matters to them and who influences them:
  - Parents
  - Health department partners
  - School principals
  - Doctors and dentists
  - Elected officials
  - Community leaders
  - Local business owners
  - Faith-based leaders
  - Young people

## Working Successfully With the Media





#### What Matters to Media?



- Timely
- Local
- Significant
- Trendsetting
- Ironic
- Controversial
- Celebrity



#### **Segmenting the Media**



#### **Electronic**

- News radio
- Television

#### **Print**

- Newspaper
- Magazine
- Talk radio



#### **Social Media**

## Radio





- Speed
- Sound
- Concise
- Generalists

## **Television News**



- Images
- Speed
- Generalists
- Entertainment



## Newspapers



- Depth
- Multiple sources
- Local
- Images



## Magazines



- Depth
- Images
- Timeless angle
- Specialists
- Know their audiences



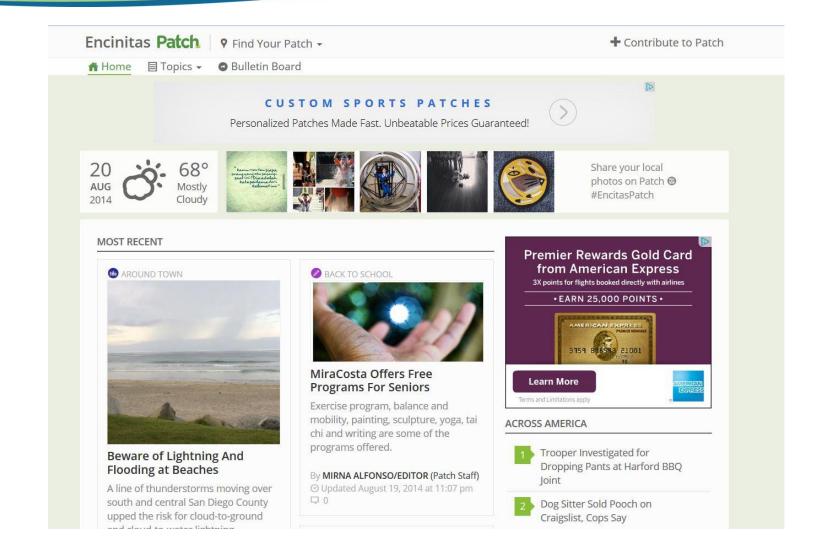
## **Ethnic & Community Media**





#### **Hyperlocal News**





## A Changing Media World





#### When one door closes...

Shrinking
opportunities to
work with traditional
media

**EXPANDING** influence of social media

## **Understanding Social Media**

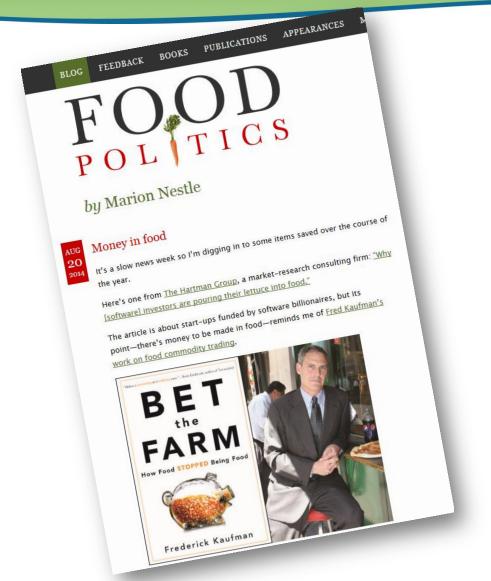


- Social
- Commentary on news
- Echo chamber
- Uncensored
- Endless opportunities
- Open, free access
- Big time commitment
- Requires monitoring



## Blogosphere





- Online journals
- Blogs for all interests
- Write your own
- Join the conversation
- Know when to respond
- Respond in a timely manner

#### Messaging



#### Who's the Audience?

- WHAT What does your audience need to know?
- WHY Why should they care? Emotional, fiscal, personal price
- ACTION What should they do with the information? What ONE action do you want them to take?

# What Does the Target Audience Need to Know?



- Key piece of information
  - Avoid overreaching
    - Specific and focused
      - Less is truly more



## Why Should They Care?



- The "WHY" filter
- How issue impacts them:
  - Benefits
  - Opportunities
  - Risks
- You must win on this



## **Taking Action**





- Be measured
- Don't overreach
- Suggest a first step:
  - Actionable immediately
  - No approval needed
- Build on initial step

#### Exercise



#### WHAT

 There are no safe places for physical activity in the ABC School neighborhood. Opening school facilities during non-school hours will encourage families to engage in physical activity.

#### WHY

 ABC school children and their parents suffer from the highest rates of obesity in the state. Regular physical activity is essential for good health by helping control weight, reducing risk of chronic diseases, strengthening bones, and improving mental health and mood.

#### ACTION

 Meet with parents to investigate a joint-use agreement that allows neighborhood residents to use school facilities when school is not in session.

## **Be Prepared With a Story**





- Supports message
- Humanizes issue
- Brings data to life
- Memorable, repeatable
- Inspires change

## **Story Telling Exercise**



#### Develop a pocket story:

- Local
- Real, human and emotional
- Relevant
- Illustrative of your message
- Compelling



#### **Introduction to Media Tools**



Use the appropriate tools to promote and empower your program

- Calendar releases
- Media alerts
- Press releases
- Letters to the editor
- Online comments
- Opinion editorials
- Editorial board meetings





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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Celebrating Earth Day in School Kitchens

Oakland Unified Pioneers Menus Aimed at Reducing District's Carbon Footprint

Oakland, CA, April 24, 2014 ... While school meals and the environment may not seem closely related, food service leaders at Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) see the connection and are launching an innovative program today that improves the nutrition of their meals and shrinks their carbon footprint in the process.

Appropriately to celebrate Earth Day, 16,000 meals will be served to students as part of the OUSD's new "California Thursdays" program, which sources food entirely from California producers. Every Thursday, Oakland students will enjoy foods that don't have to be shipped in from around the nation but instead come from local producers, significantly reducing the amount of fossil fuel necessary to feed the District's children.

"Our students, teachers and staff all participated this past year to create "California Thursdays," says Jennifer LeBarre, OUSD's nutrition services executive director. "Instead of trucking in ingredients from other states, our new program expands markets for local growers and, as a result, maintains agricultural land, greatly reduces our carbon footprint and connects our students to the people who grow their food. The program is a win-win for everyone."

It doesn't hurt that the menu uses healthy, student-tested recipes cooked from scratch with local ingredients. The meal features chicken drumsticks roasted with garlic, lemon and oregano served over brown rice, with snap peas and organic strawberries. All of the ingredients — 5,120 pounds of chicken, 1,850 pounds of rice, 590 pounds of snap peas and 2,050 pounds of strawberries — come from California. By purchasing from small-scale farmers, the new program offers local economies a major financial boon.

## Tips for Pitching the Media



- Research media outlets
- Identify and research the best person to pitch
- Make your pitch newsworthy
- Be clear, concise and compelling
- Offer spokespersons, data and support
- Respect reporters' time
- Be persistent but respectful
- Be available for follow-up

## **Building a Relationship**



- Be available
- Be credible
- Know your message
- Understand their needs
- Honor deadlines
- Become go-to source of information



#### Review



- Know your audience
- Know your issue
- Know what you want to achieve
- Speak to audience needs
- Stick to your message
- Control the conversation

#### **For More Information**



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